PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040894-7417

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re Application of:)
Toshio SHIMIZU et al.) Confirmation No.: 6215
Application No.: 10/571,249) Group Art Unit: 3721
Filed: March 9, 2006) Examiner: Brian D. Nash
For: CUTTER UNIT OF STAPLER)

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), the above-identified Applicants cite the following patent, which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of the Office Action issued on July 6, 2007 by the Chinese Patent Office in a corresponding foreign application is attached along with an English translation of same. The U.S. reference was first cited in a communication from the Chinese Patent Office not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. Applicants respectfully request that this item be considered by the Examiner. Pursuant to the rules pertaining to applications filed after June 30, 2003, a copy of the U.S. reference is not enclosed. A copy of the reference will be submitted upon request by the 08/29/2007 CNGUYEN2 00000010 500310 Examiner. 01 FC:1886 180.00 DA

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Applicants respectfully request that this reference be considered by the Examiner, and that the Examiner acknowledge consideration of this reference by initialing and returning copies of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the next official action.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention or otherwise material to the patentability of this invention as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b) exists.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). A Final Office Action was mailed on June 26, 2007. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1), it is certified that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of the Office Action dated July 6, 2007 from the State Intellectual Property Office of China and a translation of the same are also enclosed.

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It is believed that a fee of \$180 is due under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement. Please charge this fee and any other fee required in connection with this submission to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 27, 2007

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LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO			
040894-7417	10/571,249			
APPLICANT				
Toshio SHIMIZU et al.				
FILING DATE	GROUP			
March 9, 2006	3721			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	. NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A01	4,844,319	7/4/1989	Kurosawa	227	79 .	
	A02						
	A03						
	A04						
	A05						
	A06	·				•	
	A07						
	A08						
	A09						
	A10						
	All					·	
	A12			*		-	
	A13						
	A14						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS SU	JBCLASS	TRANSL	ATION
•						YES	NO
В0	1					}	
В0	2						
В0	3						
B0	4			·			
· B0	5		•				

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

C01	•
C02	
C03	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.